

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are currently pending in this application.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 4-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

Claims 4-17 have been amended herein.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §101

Claims 1-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 1-18 have been amended herein.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 9-10 and 16-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kawata Tetsuro (U.S. Patent No. 5,274,777) in view of Larry Phillips (U.S. Patent No. 5,867,601). Since these claims depend directly or indirectly from independent claims, it is submitted that they are patentable in view of the patentability of the independent claims as set forth above.

Dependent Claims

In view of the patentability of the underlying amended independent claims, it is submitted that the amended claims depending therefrom are likewise patentable.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above amendments and remarks, applicant submits that the application is in condition for allowance, and requests that it be passed to issue. If there are any issues which can be discussed in a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact applicant's attorney at (310) 242-2732.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any required fee relating to this response to our Deposit Account No. 06-2425.

Respectfully submitted,

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